

ICED Meeting Minutes

130 W. Mason, Room 104, Springfield

100 W. Randolph, Suite 5-300, Chicago

October 7, 2015

1:30 p.m.

Attendance

Rocco J. Claps, Director, Department of Human Rights, designee, Susan Allen, present

James Dimas, Acting Secretary, Department of Human Services, designee, Francisco Alvarado, present

Erica Jeffries, Director, Department of Veterans' Affairs, designee Greg Dooley, present

Tom Tyrrell, Director, Department of Central Management Services, designee Jaci DeBrun, present

Frederick Bates, Chair, Civil Service Commission, designee Andrew Barris, absent

Sheila Romano, Director, Council on Developmental Disabilities, designee Margaret Harkness, present

Catherine Collier, Employee member, present by telephone

Attorney General Lisa Madigan, designee Vickie Simpson, present

Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti, designee Ennedy Rivera, present by telephone

Secretary of State Jesse White, designee William Bogdan, present by telephone

Comptroller Leslie Munger, designee Ryan Amerson, present by telephone

Treasurer Michael Frerichs, designee Rosemary Laudani, present

Debbie Johnson-Small, Employee member, absent

Randy Boschulte, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Deb Matthews, University of Illinois Chicago Division of Specialized Care for Children

Fred V. Stewart, II, CMS

Barbara Peake (taking minutes), DHS

Brandy Hayes, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission

Anna D'Ascenzo, Department of Employment Security

Carlos Charneco, CMS

Wanda Satkas, DHS

Sarah Myerscough-Mueller, DHS

Sue Masten, DHS

Diane Crutcher

Teresita Gonzalez, Department of Children and Family Services

Martha Younger-White, DHS

Erik Cozzolino, CMS

Franklin Johnson, Department of Natural Resources

Approval of August 5, 2015 Minutes

Francisco Alvarado made a motion to approve the minutes and Jaci DeBrun seconded the motion; it passed.

ICED History

Susan Allen welcomed the new members on behalf of ICED. She continued to provide a brief history of ICED and spoke of its mission of promoting access and opportunity for people with disabilities in state government. The Committee has been in existence for 40 years, created by Section 19a of the Personnel Code. ICED reaches its goals through education, such as sponsoring webinars, legislation, such as the law creating the Alternative Employment Program, sponsoring an awards program, maintaining a website and issuing a newsletter, and operating an Internship Program for Students with Disabilities.

Presentations by New Members

Ryan Amerson, of the Comptroller's office, said he was glad to serve on the Committee and his office would consider providing internships. He offered his help and the help of his office in any way that is needed.

William Bogdan, of the Secretary of State's office, discussed his role in advising the Secretary on disability issues and providing training on accessible parking, including one for ICED. Bill also discussed the reason for the Act adding the Constitutional Officers and other members. He is looking forward to working with the other new members.

Margaret Harkness, of the Council on Developmental Disabilities, talked about her agency, which has a small staff and is totally federally-funded. She provided a report on her agency's work. Margie stated that every state and territory has a council like hers. They are primarily charged with system change and do not provide any direct services. They work through policy efforts to ensure that people with disabilities have choices in all areas of life including housing and employment.

Ennedy Rivera, of the Lieutenant Governor's office, said she is the only attorney in the office and works on a variety of compliance issues. She stated they are here to serve and offered to help in any way she could.

Vickie Simpson, of the Attorney General's office, said she has worked for the state for 26 years, primarily in disability rights. She works in enforcement of the accessibility code. One of her office's recent successes was in litigation with the high school sports authority to get them to include students with disabilities. She also serves on a variety of councils.

Rosemary Laudani, of the Treasurer's office, said they presently have internship openings, which she will provide information about so that ICED can refer applicants with disabilities. They also have a new program, which allows parents of a child with a disability to set up tax-free accounts.

Internship Program

Martha Younger-White, the chair of a work group to re-structure the Internship Program, reported on the program's history and success. Nearly 100 interns have been placed in the program, and several former interns have become permanent state employees. The work group is still studying several issues and will report back to the Committee on conclusion of its work. Fred Stewart complemented Martha on her report and the group's work.

Employment First

Sarah Myerscough Muller, of the Department of Human Services, provided background information and a status report on this policy initiative.

Other Business

In regards to meeting dates and times, Susan said she will poll the members to determine the best time to meet. The Committee as a whole meets every other month on the first Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Work groups meet the intervening months. Every member is expected to join a work group. Susan will send out an email asking members about the best time to meet and a separate email about the current work groups.

Susan also asked members to spread the word at their agencies that the Committee has five vacancies in member positions for employees with disabilities. The process begins with a person nominating him or herself for consideration on the Boards and Commissions page of the Governor's website. The Governor appoints employees to the Committee.

The next meeting is December 2, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the same locations. The call-in number and password are also the same.

Submitted by,

Barbara Peake

Department of Human Services